

# From the Upper Chamber



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## Report for Thursday, February 8, 2007

The fifteenth day of the 2007 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9<sup>th</sup> stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 103-111, Senate Resolution 154 and House Bills 39, 81, 105, 211, 212, 223 and 234 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk of the Secretary then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

After the morning roll call, Lt. Gov. **Cagle** asked the Senate to pause for a moment of silence in honor of Congressman **Charlie Norwood**.

Lt. Gov **Cagle** then recognized Sen. **Johnny Grant** of the 25<sup>th</sup>, who took the rostrum to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Grant** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Rev. **Grant LeRoux** of All Saint's Episcopal Church in Warner Robins, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

Sen. **Seth Harp** of the 29<sup>th</sup> took the rostrum to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Margaret Schaufler** of LaGrange.

Lt. Gov **Cagle** recognized former Sen. **Brian Kemp** of Athens, who was on the Senate floor.

Sen. **Vincent Fort** of the 39<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak about the current payday lending issues in Georgia.

Senators **George Hooks** of the 14<sup>th</sup> and **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to announce that today is the 97<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Boy Scouts of America.

Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to present two resolutions – the first recognizing women in sports and the second commending the Peachtree Ridge Varsity Competition Cheerleaders for their achievements.

Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to announce that the Senate will convene at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 10, for Family Day, and listed several of the activities that will be taking place at the Capitol.

Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33<sup>rd</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to ask that the Senators keep legislative assistant **Marcia Wallace**, who is ill, in their thoughts and prayers.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Lorenzo Wallace** escorted Sen. **Lee Hawkins** of the 49<sup>th</sup> and his guests, members of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce, to the rostrum.

The Secretary then read SR 152, which recognizes February 8 as “Gainesville-Hall County Day.” Sen. **Hawkins** took the rostrum to speak to the resolution.

SR 155-167 were then read and adopted.

The Secretary read SB 57, the *Ray Biddy and Gene Mullis Act*, which provides licenses, certificates and training for renal dialysis technicians, as well as establishes a dialysis technician advisory council.

Sen. **Unterman** took the well to speak to the bill. Sen. **Jeff Mullis** of the 53<sup>rd</sup> also took the well to urge the passage of the bill, which is in part named after his father, **Gene Mullis**, who died of complications from renal disease.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** paused for a moment to recognize his son, **Grant Cagle**, at the rostrum.

SB 57 passed by a vote of 50 to 0.

Lt. Gov **Cagle** then announced that the Senate picture will be taken tomorrow, promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Wallace** escorted Sens. **Cecil Staton** of the 18<sup>th</sup>, **Mitch Seabaugh** of the 28<sup>th</sup>, **Mullis**, **Chip Rogers** of the 21<sup>st</sup> and **Robert Brown** of the 26<sup>th</sup>, and their guest, famed keyboardist **Chuck Leavell**, to the rostrum.

Sens. **Mullis** and **Brown** took the rostrum to recognize Mr. **Leavell** for his contributions to the forestry industry in Georgia.

Following the announcements, Majority Leader **Williams** moved that the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Friday, February 9.

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